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ASHBOURNE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1949.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health.

H.H. Hollick. L.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

H. Litchfield. A.R.San.I. M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors.

D.J. Cowen. A.R.San.I. M.S.I.A.
T.R. Sambrook. A.R.San.I. M.S.I.A.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Ashbourne Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health, sanitary circumstances, vital statistics and various activities of the Health Department for the year ending 1949.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area. 86,188 acres.
Population. Estimated by the Registrar General 11,780.
Estimated number of inhabited houses according to rate books, 3225.
Rateable Value. £43,935.
Product of a penny rate. £187.

The chief industries carried on in the District are Dairy Farming, limestone quarrying and grinding, gravel digging, silica digging and manufacturing the same into refractory articles. There is also a Tape Mill.

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS.

Live Births	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the civil population.
Legitimate	84	84	168	
Illegitimate	8	7	15	
	92	91	183	15.5
Still Births				
Legitimate	2	2	4	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
	2	2	4	.34

DEATHS.

	66	60	126

Death rate per 1,000 of Civil population - 10.7

Natural increase of population - 57.

Number of persons dying in or in consequence of childbirth

From Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
From other maternal causes	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year if age -

	Male	Female	Total.
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	1	3	4

Infant Mortality Rates (i.e. Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 births) - 25.1

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DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SELECTED CAUSES.

	Male	Female	Total
Cancer all ages.	10	6	16
Measles.	0	0	0
Heart Disease.	18	17	35
Whooping Cough.	0	0	0
Diarrhoea(under 2 years of age)	0	0	0
Influenza	0	3	3
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	1	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	Under 5	Between 5 - 15
No. of children immunised	138	36

No cases of diphtheria were reported during the year.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE YEAR.

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946. the Derbyshire County Council now administer the laboratory facilities, nursing in the home, treatment centres, clinics and hospitals.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Considerable advance has been made in carrying out the policy of making available a piped water supply in every village and the interconnection of the various sections of the scheme.

The interconnection of the mains between Hartington and Brassington has been completed and the installation of a booster station at Longcliffe. This extension has made an adequate water supply to about 30 moorland farms which were previously practically waterless.

The water from the Sturston boreholes has been substituted for that from Sheen boreholes for the village of Biggin and thereby overcome the difficulty of temporary failures of the supply.

The extra demand for water brought about by these extensions and changes has greatly increased the demand from the Sturston boreholes, the pumps at these stations are now running almost continuously, especially during dry periods when the water demand for the combined northern and central area amounts to 300,000 gallons per day, which is equivalent to the total yield of the various pumping plants.

To meet this growing demand for water, the duplicate borehole has been sunk at Yeldersley and when tested by means of a continuous pumping test yielded 7,600 gallons per hour from a depth of 102 feet.

The complete scheme as been prepared for the installation of duplicate pumps at Yeldersley, a new reservoir at Hulland of 150,000 gallons capacity and a booster station to augment the existing Sturston supply. The mains will also be extended to Brailsford, Hollington and Longford.

Several small extensions to the mains have been approved by the Council, and application made to the Ministry of Health for permission to proceed with the same. They include :-

1. Extension from Newhaven Hotel to Newhaven Lodge Farm in the Hartington area.
2. Dale End, Hartington.
3. Pike House, Thorpe.
4. Overtown, Hognaston.
5. Hulland Ward, Biggin & Kirk Ireton.

In the southern part of the area, the Cubley scheme has been nearly completed, one set of pumps have been installed and put into operation. Delay in servicing the mains has been occasioned by the difficulties met during testing. The installation of the iron extraction plant has not been completed owing to the late delivery of certain special valves etc.

WATER SUPPLY (CONTD)

Application has been made to the Ministry of Health to sanction extensions of the mains to the village of Boylestone, also to H.M. Barless Prison at Sudbury where the inmates are drinking water drawn from the River Dove.

Arrangements have been completed for the Council to afford a bulk supply of water to the Leek R.D.C. for the parishes of Ilam, Alstonefield and Wetton from the mains at Thorpe.

A similar arrangements has been made with Uttoxeter R.D.C. for a bulk supply to Ellastone from the main at Norbury & Roston.

SEWERAGE

Very little advance has been made with the sewage schemes.

The Ministry of Health have held local Inquiries into the schemes for Clifton, Hulland Ward and Parwich, and a decision is awaited.

The Council has been advised that the scheme for Brassington has been approved and the Engineers instructed to proceed with the tender documents and plans.

LEGISLATION

The Housing Act, 1949, became operative on the 1st. October, 1949, and one application for a grant for the improvements of housing accommodation was made.

The Food & Drugs (Milk & Dairies) Act, 1944, the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, the Milk (Special Designation) (Pastuerised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, came into operation on the 1st. October, 1949.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Since water mains have been laid to a number of the Villages, there is an ever increasing request for permission to convert closets to water closets. Owing to the unsatisfactory method of sewage disposal in many villages, these requests at the present time are unfortunately having to be discouraged.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The total amount of salvaged paper collected during the year was 8 tons, being a decrease of 3 tons: 17 cwts over the previous year.

The Dennis Refuse Collection Vehicle was delivered to the Council during the year and the collection of refuse over the district has been extended to the whole area.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

During the year 2086 calls were made by your Inspector for the abatement of nuisance, 49 Informal and 3 Formal Notices were served, 33 of which were complied with. No legal proceedings were instituted.

MILK & DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1926-43.

Prior to the 1st. October, 1949, 61 visits were made to farms in the area. Informal action was taken in 11 cases.

The inspection of dairy farms is now carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

Owing to the central slaughtering of animals there are no animals slaughtered in the District except pigs for home consumption and "casualty" animals. Numerous pigs killed for home consumption were inspected at the request of the owner. Difficulties have arisen in cases where pigs were affected with generalized tuberculosis and the owner retained the carcases for their own consumption. No further action could be taken by the Department.

INSPECTION OF FOOD (CONTD)

Details of the carcases inspected and condemned during the year are as follows :-

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	-	-	-	-	-
Number inspected ...	-	-	-	1	27
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcase condemned ..	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis..	-	-	-	100	-
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned ..	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	-

Regular inspections of meat and other goods have been made during the year. Details of visits and inspections made are as follows :-

Slaughterhouses	10
Bakehouses	6
Shops etc.	33
Catering establishments.	20

HOUSING.

No Demolition Orders were made during the year.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

403 houses comprising of 5 parishes have been inspected and placed in the following categories :-

Category No.	PARWICH.	HULLAND WARD.	BIGGIN-BY-HARTINGTON.	HARTINGTON.	BRASSINGTON.	TOTAL
1.	4.	-.	11.	2.	3.	20
T/1.	-.	4.	-.	1.	-.	5
2b.	5.	1.	-.	3.	32.	41
3c.	56.	37.	47.	43.	78.	261
T/3c.	-.	-.	3.	1.	-.	4
C/3c.	12.	-.	-.	-.	-.	12
O/3c.	4.	3.	-.	-.	-.	7
4/3c.	10.	3.	1.	-.	6.	20
4/5a.	1.	-.	-.	-.	-.	1
5c.	4.	1.	3.	7.	15.	30
T/5c.	-.	1.	-.	1.	-.	2
						403

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY (CONTD)

Interpretation of Classification Categories.

Category No.	Classification.
1.	Satisfactory.
2.	Minor Defects
2a.	Requiring urgent attention.
2b.	Disrepair not urgent or serious.
3.	Major Defects.
3a.	Requiring urgent attention.
3b.	Requiring early attention.
3c.	Moderate repair and/or in need of certain amenities.
4.	Rural Worker's Act.
	Subdivided into Major defects (3) or Unfit (5)
5.	Unfit
5a.	Dangerous structural defects.
5b.	Serious structural defects.
5c.	Not requiring urgent attention.

Special Categories - Council Houses ... Prefix letter "C"
Overcrowded ... Prefix letter "O"
Temporary Dwellings. Prefix letter "T"

The majority of the houses placed in Category 3c (houses in need of moderate and/or in need of certain amenities) are houses without water closet accommodation; internal dampness caused by the houses being built into the hillsides (this particularly affects the villages of Brassington and Parwich); no separate food stores; no washing accommodation and lack of natural light and ventilation.

The question of water closet accommodation cannot be considered until a sewage disposal and treatment system is installed in these Villages.

FACTORIES.

5 inspections were made of factories in the area.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during the year are set out in the table -

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox.	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.	9	9	0
Diphtheria.	0	0	0
Enteric Fever.	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1	0	0
Pneumonia.	13	0	3
Erysipelas.	7	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis.	4	4	1
Measles.	13	0	0
Whooping Cough.	57	0	0